The Public Safety Radio Pool is the set of frequencies reserved for use by public safety entities. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules that govern eligibility for licenses to use Public Safety Radio Pool frequencies are provided in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR); see 47 CFR 90.20(a).

Under the FCC rules, a wide variety of activities, organizations, and individuals qualify for radio licenses in the Public Safety Radio Pool. Examples include law enforcement, medical services, rescue organizations, veterinarians, persons with disabilities, disaster relief organizations, school bus services, beach patrols, establishments in isolated places, communications standby facilities, and emergency repair services for public communications facilities.

To qualify for Public Safety Radio Pool licenses, organizations must give evidence of their public safety mission. Many satisfy this requirement by showing that they qualify as a nonprofit organization— a "501(c)(3)"—for public safety reasons under the Internal Revenue Service code. Other organizations obtain a letter from a local or state government official, such as a town mayor or a state representative, to certify that they have a public safety need for the radio license. To supplement this evidence, organizations often submit mission statements as part of their license application. This appendix presents sample mission statements from a wide range of public safety entities.

The mission statements are organized into the following categories:

- Law enforcement services
- Fire protection services
- Emergency medical services
- Special emergency services
- Forestry-conservation services
- Highway maintenance services.

In the past, organizations in each of seven service categories—police, fire, emergency medical, forestry-conservation, highway maintenance, and local government—were limited to certain portions of the spectrum allocated to public safety entities. These limitations no longer apply, but the categories are still commonly used for public safety organizations. The categories are not mutually exclusive, however. Many public safety organizations fall into several different categories, as the following lists indicate. The local government radio services category has been excluded due to the level of overlap between it and the other six categories.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

State Police/State Troopers

The State Police Department shall provide leadership, coordination, and delivery of law enforcement and support services to preserve, protect, and defend people and property, while respecting the rights and dignity of all persons. The Department shall achieve its mission by performing the following duties:

- Enforce all State statues as directed by proper authority
- Effectively investigate crime and reduce criminal activity
- Provide prompt, effective service in emergency situations
- Ensure personal protection and security for the Governor and all other persons designated by proper authority
- Provide investigative assistance and support services to all law enforcement agencies operating within the Department's jurisdiction
- Maintain and provide to criminal justice agencies accurate, up-to-date law enforcement information
- Promote traffic safety, enforce existing statues, and recognize and eliminate traffic hazards
- Continually elevate the competence of law enforcement personnel within the Department's jurisdiction
- Promote public awareness of personal responsibility for crime reduction and traffic safety.

County Police

The fundamental mission of the County Police Department is to provide the professional leadership and support required to sustain and improve the community's efforts and to work in partnership with the entire community to—

- Provide the highest possible level of service to the citizens of the County in a nondiscriminatory manner
- Maintain order and control crime
- Reduce the opportunity for crime
- Reduce citizens' fear of crime
- Provide people with a sense of security by protecting life and property
- Preserve the peace and constitutional rights of all citizens
- Address the root causes of crime through efficient and effective police services and creative problem solving.

City Police

It is the mission of the City Police Department to maximize the quality of life for all people within our jurisdiction by serving the community with respect, fairness, and compassion. We are committed to the protection of life and property; the preservation of peace, order, and safety; the vigorous enforcement of local, state, and federal laws; and the defense of the Constitution of the State and the Constitution of the United States of America in a fair and impartial manner.

State Highway Patrol

The State Highway Patrol is devoted to improving the quality of life in our state through spirited and dedicated service. The mission of the State Highway Patrol is to—

- Enforce the traffic laws of the state
- Enforce laws against crimes carried out on the state's highway system
- Investigate traffic collisions
- Enforce and regulate motor carriers transporting cargo and hazardous materials
- Maintain the integrity of state's highway facilities
- Operate statewide message switcher to process criminal justice information.

Office of the County Sheriff

The mission of the County Sheriff's Office is to provide professional and high-quality law enforcement, deliver custodial and court-related services to all persons within the County, and effectively perform all duties mandated by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and the State in a professional, ethical, and cost-effective manner through—

- Effective utilization of human and organizational resources to improve cooperation, teamwork, and leadership skills
- Creative motivation of individual employees to increase productivity and continue development of personal and professional skills
- Positive involvement in community activities and enhanced interpersonal communications
- Active participation of all employees in organizational development and processing for improved internal communications
- Responsive interaction with all criminal justice agencies to increase exchange of information and growth of statewide networks
- Innovative application of available technology to prevent, detect, and report crime and to apprehend and incarcerate criminals
- Objective analysis of planned activities to achieve targeted objectives and ensure proper expenditure of limited funds.

Park Police

The mission of the Park Police is to ensure the protection and safety of the public using Park Commission facilities. In addition to enforcing State statutes and Commission rules and regulations, the Park Police act as a liaison between the Commission and the park patrons by making one-to-one contacts with park patrons and assisting them in any manner necessary to make their visit enjoyable.

University Police/Campus Police

The mission of the University Police Department is to provide safety and security services to the University community and to enforce all laws pertaining to orderly conduct on its premises. Police officers in the Department are sworn to enforce state laws, city and county ordinances, and campus regulations including traffic, animal control, and parking regulations. The Department also provides referrals to resources such as victim assistance and mental health services in the surrounding community.

Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections promotes public safety by imprisoning convicted felons and providing opportunities for rehabilitation through a structured reintegration model. The Department of Corrections' mission is achieved through the following initiatives:

- Protecting the public by safely and humanely incarcerating inmates at the appropriate security level
- Providing inmate work, educational, and programming opportunities
- Prudently and efficiently managing all resources allocated to the Department
- Establishing sound correctional policies and procedures
- Proactively informing and educating the public in a manner consistent with established correctional policies
- Providing a professional and rewarding work environment for staff.

Department of Law Enforcement

The mission of the Department of Law Enforcement is to protect the lives, property, and constitutional rights of the citizens through fair, effective, and impartial enforcement of the laws. This mission is accomplished in part by assisting local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies with technical support services including, but not limited to, investigation, data collection and dissemination, professional training and scientific analysis. The Department's successes reflect the high ethics, professionalism, integrity, courage, and efficiency displayed by its employees.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of law enforcement entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- Bureaus of fire and arson investigation
- City jails
- Correctional institutions
- County jails
- Departments of civil defense
- Departments of criminal justice
- Departments of drug enforcement
- Departments of health and rehabilitation
- Departments of mental health
- Departments of revenue and taxation

- Departments of wildlife and fisheries
- Departments of youth services
- Marine environmental patrols
- Narcotics bureaus
- Natural resources police
- Offices of alcohol, beverages, and tobacco
- Offices of criminal investigations
- Offices of district attorneys
- Tax commissions.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

City Fire Department

The mission of the City Fire Department is to serve and protect the community through public safety education, fire prevention, fire suppression, emergency rescue, disaster preparedness, hazardous material response, and other services that minimize loss of life and property, damage to the environment, and adverse economic impacts due to fire and other natural or manmade emergencies or events.

County Fire Department

The County Fire Department is committed to the preservation of the lives and property of community members. This commitment is demonstrated through the rapid, effective response of fire suppression and emergency medical services personnel and equipment. It is also evident in fire prevention, fire and arson investigations, emergency management planning, and public safety education.

Volunteer Fire Department

The mission of the Volunteer Fire Department is to protect our community from loss of life or property and to minimize suffering and damage due to fire, environmental emergencies, natural disasters, and other catastrophes through prevention, education, and suppression.

Office of the Fire Marshal

In the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the community, the mission of the Fire Marshal's Office is to enforce the laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations of the jurisdiction as they pertain to fire safety. To accomplish this mission, the Fire Marshal's Office provides fire safety and inspection programs for commercial and industrial businesses, as well as schools and nonprofit organizations. The Fire Marshal's Office also coordinates with local volunteer fire companies, rescue squads, and the police department to develop and conduct community relations and education programs to promote fire safety. The Fire Marshal's Office works closely with the Police Department in conducting investigations into suspected crimes relating to fire and explosives. During emergencies, the Fire Marshal's Office coordinates operations with organizations such as the American Red Cross and local, state, and federal emergency management agencies.

Fire and Rescue Squads

The mission of the Fire and Rescue Squad is twofold: 1) to minimize the risk of death, injury, and loss to property and the environment through comprehensive delivery of fire, health, and other educational prevention programs that contribute to promoting a healthy community; and 2) to maintain the high state of system readiness that ensures safe, efficient, effective fire, rescue, emergency medical, and hazardous materials incident and disaster mitigation.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of fire protection service entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- Airport authority—crash, fire & rescue departments
- Departments of civil defense
- Departments of emergency communications
- Departments of natural resources
- Departments of public safety
- Departments of the fire chief
- Emergency dispatch centers
- Emergency operations centers
- Fire and disaster control centers
- Fire bureaus

- Fire fighters' associations
- Firemen's benevolent associations
- Firemen's mutual aid associations
- Hook and ladder companies
- Local fire coordinators
- Local government control offices
- Offices of emergency preparedness
- Offices of the fire commissioner
- University/college volunteer fire departments
- Wilderness rescue teams.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Ambulance Service

The mission of the Ambulance Service is to provide professional, courteous, and timely transportation and care to the sick and injured. Its goal is to provide the best ambulance service possible.

Medical Air Transport Service

The mission of the Medical Air Transport Service is to provide prompt and appropriate care of the seriously ill or injured and rapid transport to the nearest appropriate or designated critical care facility. Medical air transport is particularly suited to needs in rural or remote areas when, due to time and distance, ground ambulance transportation would exceed acceptable response times; when the patient is inaccessible because of terrain; when secondary transfer of a patient is needed from a rural hospital to a major treatment center; when ground ambulance transport would separate the patient from hospital care for a length of time that would endanger life or limb; when disaster operations would exceed the capabilities of local ground operations; and when emergency transportation of blood or organs is needed.

Department of Emergency Services

The Department of Emergency Services' mission is to—

- Protect and preserve the lives and property of citizens from emergencies and disasters by coordinating the state's emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts
- Deliver rapid and appropriate care of the seriously ill or injured
- Provide rapid transport to the nearest appropriate or designated critical care facility.

Department of Emergency Management

The Department of Emergency Management is responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive emergency services program that supports local and state agencies. Activities and services cover the four phases of emergency management—preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation—for disasters like flooding, tornadoes, wildfire, and hazardous materials incidents. Planning and training services to local governments include financial and technical assistance, as well as emergency training and exercise activities. Services are made available through local emergency managers supported by Department staff assigned to specific geographic areas of the state. In a disaster, the Department of Emergency Management coordinates the state response and recovery program in support of local government.

Office of Emergency Communications/Emergency Communications Center

The mission of the Communications Center is to enhance the quality of life by handling all 911 and other calls for emergency service. The Communications Center dispatches necessary emergency services in a prompt, courteous, and professional, thereby saving lives, protecting property, stopping crimes, and preventing major fire loss, while maintaining accurate information for user agencies.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of emergency medical service entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- Air ambulance services
- Ambulance services funded by local governments
- Ambulance services, privately owned and operated
- Departments of health
- Departments of public safety
- Health care centers, privately owned and operated
- Hospitals, privately owned and operated

- Hospitals, public
- Incorporated fire departments
- Incorporated hospitals
- Quick response squads
- Search and rescue squads
- University medical centers
- Volunteer ambulance corps
- Volunteer fire companies
- Volunteer fire departments
- Volunteer rescue squads.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

Search and Rescue Dog Services

The mission of Search One Rescue Team, a nonprofit volunteer organization, is to assist governmental agencies in locating lost or missing persons. Professionally trained members provide 24-hour rapid response in urban, rural, water, and evidence recovery searches.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

Department of Public Safety

The mission of the Department of Public Safety is to provide a safe environment to maintain, promote, and enhance citizen safety through enforcement, crime and accident prevention, and professional assistance to the criminal justice system, fire safety organizations, and other governmental and private entities.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of special emergency service entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- 911 communications control centers
- Animal hospitals
- Beach rescue services
- Beach rescue squads
- Blood banks
- Boards of education
- Community health centers
- Community medical centers
- Courthouses
- Departments of civil defense
- Departments of health
- Departments of health and public welfare
- Departments of public health
- Departments of public works
- Disaster relief services
- Emergency dispatch services
- Emergency medical services, privately owned and operated
- Emergency response centers

- Environmental departments of air management
- Fire departments, volunteer
- Funeral director associations
- Heart and lung centers
- Homes for the aged
- Hospital security forces
- Hospitals
- Local drug task forces
- Local governments
- Mental health institutions
- Mountain rescue squads
- School bus services
- Nursing homes, privately owned and operated
- Patient transfer services
- Rehabilitation centers
- Rescue squads, volunteer
- School bus maintenance services

- School bus services, privately owned and operated
- Search and rescue associations
- Transportation companies, privately owned and operated
- Turnpike authorities

- University medical centers
- University security communications
- Veterinarians
- Water rescue response teams
- Wilderness rescue squads.

FORESTRY-CONSERVATION SERVICES

Department of Conservation

The mission of the Department of Conservation is to—

- Protect and manage fish, forest, and wildlife resources
- Maintain, preserve, and improve state parks
- Manage state forest lands to ensure their long-term health, sustainability, and economic use
- Serve the public and facilitate participation in resource management activities
- Provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about fish, forest, and wildlife resources
- Provide information on local ecological and geologic resources
- Administer grant and technical assistance programs that will benefit river conservation, trails and greenways, local recreation, regional heritage conservation, and environmental education programs across the State.

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

The mission of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is to care for, protect, and improve forest resources for present and future generations. Specifically, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection shall perform its mission by—

- Developing, advocating, and promoting activities that encourage the sound long-term management of forest resources
- Protecting forest resources from the effects of fire, insects, disease and misuse
- Providing accurate, relevant, timely information about forest resources.

Department of Natural Resources

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources is to protect and manage the state's vital natural resources, to protect public health and safety, to provide quality outdoor recreation, and to serve and educate the citizens of the community about the wise use, conservation, and enhancement of the environment.

Department of Parks and Recreation

The mission of the Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide wholesome recreation opportunities for the enjoyment of all people in the community and to plan, acquire, develop, and maintain high-quality parks and facilities to enhance the local jurisdiction and meet community leisure needs.

Department of Game, Fish, and Parks

The Department of Fish and Game's mission is to manage, protect, maintain, and improve fish, game, and aquatic plant resources. The primary goals of the Department are to—

- Ensure that renewable fish and wildlife resources and their habitats are conserved and managed on a sustained-yield principle
- Ensure that the use and development of these resources are in the best interest of the economy and well-being of the people of the state
- Provide opportunity for all citizens to enjoy wildlife, inland fishing, boating, and related outdoor recreation
- Promote safety of persons and property in boating, hunting, and fishing.

State Environmental Protection Agency

The mission of the State Environmental Protection Agency is to protect the air, land, and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of our citizens through a clean environment. The Department will work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments, and businesses to prevent pollution and restore our natural resources.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of forestry-conservation entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- Botanical gardens
- Departments of agriculture
- Departments of emergency services
- Departments of environmental resources
- Departments of fire safety
- Departments of forest resources
- Departments of natural resources
- Departments of soil and conservation
- Departments of weed and pest control
- Departments of wildlife, fisheries, & parks
- Electric power cooperatives
- Fish and boat commissions
- Forest fire protection commissions
- Natural resources police

- Offices of forest fire management
- Offices of parks and recreation
- Offices of the state game commissioner
- Park and planning commissions
- Recreation commissions, privately owned and operated
- State law enforcement bureaus
- State reservations
- Tribal councils
- Trustees of reservations
- Universities/colleges
- Water control boards
- Wildlife and marine reserve commissions
- Youth forestry camps
- Zoological parks.

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Department of Public Works

The mission of the Department of Public Works is to—

- Provide dependable, high-quality water
- Collect leaves, paper, recyclable material, and refuse and treat wastewater
- Provide flood protection
- Maintain and upgrade the transportation system
- Maintain all city vehicles, city trees (trimming, removal, and planting), storm drains, roads, sanitation sewers, traffic signs, traffic signals, and street lights
- Conduct snow removal (plowing, salting, and sanding) and street cleaning.

Department of Transportation

The mission of the Department of Transportation is to work cooperatively to anticipate and meet the need for the movement of people and goods in a safe, cost-effective, environmentally sensitive, and timely manner. Specifically, the Department is responsible for building, maintaining, and operating the state's roads, bridges, and tunnels.

Department of Highways

The mission of the Department of Highways is to provide a safe, efficient, reliable means of moving people, goods, and services. In fulfilling its mission, the Department maintains bridges, provides bus and ferry public transit services, and carries out its activities in a cost-effective, fiscally responsible manner. The Highway Maintenance crewmember is often the first respondent at the scene of highway vehicular accidents. The wireless communications systems utilized by these agencies is then the primary means of alerting the appropriate emergency response agencies whose rapid arrival at these locations is vital in the mitigation of the loss of life and property.

In addition to the organizations already listed, the following types of highway maintenance entities are currently licensed in the spectrum bands dedicated to the Public Safety Radio Pool:

- Departments of general services
- Departments of public services
- Departments of roads and bridges
- Departments of transportation development
- Toll bridge commissions
- Highway authorities
- Highway engineering departments.